



# Town of Groton, Connecticut

45 Fort Hill Road  
Groton, CT 06340-4394  
Town Clerk 860-441-6640  
Town Manager  
860-441-6630

## Meeting Minutes

### Town Council

**Mayor James L. Streeter, Councilors Bruce S. Flax, Bill Johnson, Catherine Kolnaski, Deborah B. Monteiro, Frank O'Beirne, Jr., Deborah L. Peruzzotti, Paulann H. Sheets, and Harry A. Watson**

**Tuesday, February 8, 2011**

**7:30 PM**

**Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1**

#### **SPECIAL MEETING**

#### **I. ROLL CALL**

*The meeting was called to order at 7:39 p.m. by Mayor Streeter.*

Members Present: Mayor Streeter, Councilor Flax, Councilor Johnson, Councilor Kolnaski, Councilor Monteiro, Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., Councilor Peruzzotti, Councilor Sheets and Councilor Watson

*Also present were Town Manager Mark Oefinger, Town Clerk Betsy Moukawsher and Office Assistant Lori Watrous.*

#### **II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

*The Salute to the Flag was led by Matt Morton.*

#### **III. RECOGNITION, AWARDS & MEMORIALS**

*None.*

#### **IV. RECEIPT OF CITIZENS' PETITIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS**

*Mark Somers, 67 Ramsdell Street, announced that there will be a seminar on February 15, 2011, at the Groton Senior Center titled, "Taking Your Heart to Heart". This program will identify risks, symptoms, and current treatments for coronary artery disease.*

*Karen Morton, 67 Mariners Lane, Mystic, a member of the RTM from District 8, stated that the Town Council is the governing body for Groton; therefore, it is entrusted to make tough choices when it comes to capital projects. Ms. Morton feels that the timing of Phase II could not be worse and she called proposing a project of this magnitude "astounding and unconscionable". She remarked that letting the voters decide is a "cop-out" and urged the Council to vote against Phase II.*

*Heather Bond Somers, 67 Ramsdell Street, stated that Thames Street is in dire need of repair and she supports the Thames Street Rehabilitation Program Ordinance. Ms. Somers believes that Phase II is too costly and that the Claude Chester site is the wrong location for the middle school. She noted that the Town spent \$1.2 million on the road at the King property because voters believed that it would be utilized for future phases. She asked the Council to vote against this item.*

*Keith Hedrick, 156 Shennecossett Parkway, believes that, as elected leaders, Councilors need to make difficult decisions and urged members not to send Phase II to referendum. He stated that this version is not similar to earlier ones, and taxpayers should not have to shoulder this additional tax burden during these tough economic times.*

*Rosanne Kotowski, 24 Ann Avenue, Mystic, a member of the RTM from District 6, is against the Phase II project, stating that the proposal is a new untested educational model and radically different both academically and physically from what voters approved in Phase I. She noted that Poquonnock Plains Park is slated as the entrance to the new middle school, and the Board of Education has no right to take Town property. Taxpayers do not have the money for this project*

*and Ms. Kotowski feels that the Council should be good stewards of the public's trust and not send Phase II to referendum.*

*Neal Gardner, 111 Mitchell Street, stated that pre-K is not mandated by the State and he feels that it is nothing more than taxpayer-funded day care. Mr. Gardner believes that the traffic studies for the new middle school are wrong, and that a new school at this location will adversely affect commuters and local businesses. He stated that the Town should have smaller neighborhood schools and demand excellence in students, teachers, and administrators. He is strongly opposed to Phase II and urges Councilors to vote "no".*

**V. RESPONSES TO CITIZENS' PETITIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS**

*None.*

**VI. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**a. Approval of Minutes**

**2011-0034 Approval of Minutes (Town Council)**

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES**

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Town Council meeting of January 18, 2011 are hereby accepted and approved.

**This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Calendar.**

**b. Administrative Items**

**2011-0031 Special Trust Fund Contributions**

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING SPECIAL TRUST FUND CONTRIBUTIONS**

RESOLVED, that the Town Council hereby accepts contributions to the Town as follows:

Various Donations - \$200.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program

City of Groton Matching - \$1,639.47 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program

Charter Oak Federal Credit Union - \$570.00 - Social Services Discretionary

Connecticut Elks Association - \$400.00 - Social Services Discretionary

Kathleen Miner - \$250.00 - Social Services Discretionary

Mystic River Homes Residents Association - \$100.00 - Social Services Discretionary

Anonymous - \$100.00 - Library Discretionary

**This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Calendar.**

**c. Deletions from the Town Council Referral List**

**2011-0026 River Road Permanent Repairs**

**This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.**

**2011-0028 Adoption of Thames Street Rehabilitation Program Ordinance**

**This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.**

**2011-0029 Adoption of Phase II School Facilities Program Ordinance**

**This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.**

**2011-0033 Supplemental Appropriation for May Referendum Costs**

**This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.**

**2011-0024 FYE 2010 CAFR**

**This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.**

**Passed The Consent Calendar**

**A motion was made by Councilor Watson, seconded by Councilor Kolnaski, to adopt the Consent Calendar, including all the preceding items marked as having been adopted on the Consent Calendar.**

The motion carried unanimously

**VII. COMMUNICATION REPORTS (Other than Committee Reports)**

**a. Town Councilors**

*Councilors received emails regarding the River Road project, Phase II, and a transition charge added to some electric bills and not to others.*

*Councilor O'Beirne attended the Mystic & Noank Library Study Committee meeting.*

*Councilor Kolnaski attended the Groton Heights School Reuse Task Force meeting.*

*Councilor Sheets attended the Task Force on Climate Change and Sustainable Community meeting.*

*Mayor Streeter received emails regarding the Board of Education (BOE) budget, Pfizer layoffs, and a thank-you for decisions regarding River Road. He received letters regarding BOE administrative staff raises, the Sister Cities Project, SECT television services, and an invitation from the state comptroller for Groton to join a prescription partnership. He attended a luncheon at Pfizer regarding a collaboration between Connecticut Legal Services and the Pfizer legal staff to do pro-bono work for Senior Citizen consumer complaints. Mayor Streeter also attended a Council of Governments meeting and a meeting of downtown Mystic business owners regarding the streetscape and bridge project. The Mayor noted that in the summer there will be house tour in Groton Bank to benefit some of the local historical associations.*

**b. Clerk of the Representative Town Meeting**

*The next regular meeting of the RTM will be on February 9, 2011.*

**c. Clerk of the Council**

*Town Clerk Betsy Moukawsker has been asked whether the bonding ordinance can be brought to the voters if it is not passed by the Town Council and the RTM. She has referred the question to the Town Attorney.*

**d. Town Manager**

*The Town Manager stated that the SubBase main gate will be closed due to construction from February 10, 2011, through March 25, 2011. He noted that the Town has exceeded its budgeted amount for snow removal, and expenditures will increase further over the next few weeks. The Town Manager stated that Groton is an exempt municipality on the 2010 Affordable Housing Land Use Appeals List, due primarily to SubBase housing. Mr. Oefinger noted that Councilors have received a preliminary budget from the Superintendent of Schools. He remarked that the Mystic Irish Parade will be on March 20, 2011. The Town Manager has received notification of a proposed zoning regulation amendment for the Noank Fire District which, if approved, would impact use of Noank School and any modifications to Esker Point Beach and Spicer House. There will be a public hearing on February 15, 2011, and the Town Planning Department will be responding in opposition to this zoning change.*

**e. Town Attorney**

*No report.*

**VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**a. Community & Cultural Development - Chairman Peruzzotti**

*No meeting, no report.*

**b. Economic Development - Chairman Johnson**

*No meeting, no report.*

**c. Education/Health & Social Services - Chairman Kolnaski**

*No meeting, no report.*

**d. Environment/Energy - Chairman Sheets**

*No meeting, no report.*

**e. Finance - Chairman O'Beirne**

*No meeting, no report.*

**f. Personnel/Appointments/Rules - Chairman Flax**

*No meeting, no report.*

**g. Public Safety - Chairman Monteiro**

*No meeting, no report.*

**h. Public Works/Recreation - Chairman Watson**

*No meeting, no report.*

**i. Committee of the Whole - Mayor Streeter**

*The resolutions on tonight's agenda are a result of both the regular and special Committee of the Whole meetings.*

**IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

**2011-0026 River Road Permanent Repairs**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PERMANENT REPAIRS TO RIVER ROAD**

WHEREAS, approximately 150 linear feet of River Road were damaged by flooding in March 2010, and

WHEREAS, \$225,000 was appropriated from the Capital Reserve Fund Balance as an FYE 2011 road project for River Road repairs, and

WHEREAS, the Town Council held a public hearing on January 18, 2011 on the permanent repairs to River Road, a designated scenic road, and received comments from the public objecting to the guiderails proposed in the project, and

WHEREAS, the Town Council feels that a barrier system that duplicates what was in place on River Road prior to the March 2010 flooding would better reflect the road's scenic designation, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves the permanent repairs to River Road with the guiderails modified as noted above.

**A motion was made by Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., seconded by Councilor Kolnaski, that this matter be Adopted.**

**The motion carried unanimously**

**2011-0028 Adoption of Thames Street Rehabilitation Program Ordinance**

**ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$6,375,505 FOR THE THAMES STREET REHABILITATION PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GROTON:  
Section 1. That the sum of SIX MILLION THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED AND FIVE DOLLARS (\$6,375,505) is appropriated for design and rehabilitation of Thames Street and intersections of adjoining streets from Bridge Street to Eastern Point Road and Smith Street. The project shall include clearing and excavation; reconstruction,

milling or recycling of existing pavement and base materials, installation of new asphalt paving; installation or reconstruction of curbing, sidewalks, guardrails, handicap ramps; rebuilding, construction of, and repairs to retaining walls; reconstruction and new installation of storm drainage systems; relocation or reconstruction of other necessary utilities; traffic signal upgrades; installation of street lighting and landscaping and related improvements. The Town Council may reduce or modify the scope of the project and the entire appropriation may be spent on the project as so reduced or modified. The appropriation may be spent for design, construction management and construction costs, equipment, materials, site improvements, environmental remediation, easement acquisition, engineering fees, land survey fees, legal fees, net interest on borrowings and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project or its financing.

Section 2. That the Town issue bonds or notes, in an amount not to exceed SIX MILLION THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED AND FIVE DOLLARS (\$6,375,505) to finance the appropriation for the project. The bonds or notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 7-369 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, and any other enabling acts. The bonds or notes shall be secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town of Groton. The Town does hereby covenant and agree with the holders of the bonds or notes and all notes issued in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds from the sale of such bonds or notes that in each year while any such bonds or notes are outstanding, it will levy and collect ad valorem taxes upon all taxable properties within the Town in an amount sufficient, with such other funds of the Town as shall be available for such purpose, to pay the interest and principal on the bonds or notes as the same become due and payable.

Section 3. That the Town issue and renew temporary notes from time to time in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds from the sale of the bonds or notes for the project. The amount of the notes outstanding at any time shall not exceed SIX MILLION THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED AND FIVE DOLLARS (\$6,375,505). The notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 7-378 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended. The notes shall be secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town, payable as provided in Section 2. The Town shall comply with the provisions of Section 7-378a of the General Statutes with respect to any notes that do not mature within the time permitted by said Section 7-378.

Section 4. That the Town Council shall determine the amount of bonds or notes authorized by Section 2 to be sold. The Town Manager and the Director of Finance shall determine the amount of any temporary notes authorized by Section 3 to be sold. The Town Manager and the Director of Finance of the Town shall sign any bonds or notes by their manual or facsimile signatures. The law firm of Day Pitney LLP is designated as bond counsel to approve the legality of the bonds or notes. The Town Manager and the Director of Finance are authorized to determine the dates, interest rates, maturities, redemption provisions, form and other details of the bonds or notes; to provide for the keeping of a record of the bonds or notes; to designate one or more banks or trust companies to be certifying bank, registrar, transfer agent and paying agent for the bonds or notes; to designate a financial advisor to the Town in connection with the sale of the bonds or notes; to sell the bonds or notes at public or private sale; to deliver the bonds or notes; and to perform all other acts which are necessary or appropriate to issue the bonds or notes.

Section 5. That the Town hereby declares its official intent under Federal Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2 and, if applicable, pursuant to Section 54A(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, that (except to the extent reimbursed from grant moneys) project costs may be paid from temporary advances of available funds and that the Town reasonably expects to reimburse any such advances from the proceeds of borrowings, including qualified tax credit bonds, in an aggregate principal amount not in excess of the amount of borrowing authorized above for the project. The Town Manager and the Director of Finance are authorized to amend such declaration of official intent as they deem necessary or advisable and to bind the Town pursuant to such representations and covenants as they deem necessary or advisable in order to maintain the continued exemption from federal income taxation of interest on the bonds or notes authorized by this ordinance if issued on a tax-exempt basis, including covenants to pay rebates of investment earnings to the United States in future years.

Section 6. That the Town Manager and the Director of Finance are authorized to make representations and enter into written agreements for the benefit of holders of the bonds or notes to provide secondary market disclosure information, which agreements may include such terms as they deem advisable or appropriate in order to comply with applicable laws or rules pertaining to the sale or purchase of such bonds or notes.

Section 7. That the Town Manager, the Director of Finance, and other proper officers of the Town are authorized to take all other action which is necessary or desirable to complete the project and to issue bonds or notes to finance the aforesaid appropriation.

Section 8. This ordinance shall become effective only if it has been adopted by vote of not less than five (5) members of the Town Council and by the Representative Town Meeting, and only if the appropriation set forth in Section 1 and the issuance of bonds and notes to finance said appropriation have been approved by the voters at referendum in accordance with Sections 5.5.5.1 and 9.13 of the Town Charter, and notice of passage has been published in accordance with the provisions of the Town Charter.

Refer to RTM.

**A motion was made by Councilor Monteiro, seconded by Councilor Watson, that this matter be Adopted and Referred to the Representative Town Meeting, due back on March 9, 2011.**

**The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Votes:** In Favor: 9 - Mayor Streeter, Councilor Flax, Councilor Johnson, Councilor Kolnaski, Councilor Monteiro, Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., Councilor Peruzzotti, Councilor Sheets and Councilor Watson

**2011-0029**

**Adoption of Phase II School Facilities Program Ordinance**

ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$133,481,150 FOR THE PHASE II SCHOOL FACILITIES PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GROTON:

Section 1. That the sum of ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-THREE MILLION FOUR HUNDRED EIGHTY-ONE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$133,481,150) is appropriated for costs related to implementation of the Phase II School Facilities Program, consisting of the design, construction, demolition, expansion, renovation, relocation, equipping and furnishing of various of the Town's school facilities in connection with the restructuring of the Groton School District's grade level structure to Pre-K through Grade 1, Grades 2 through 6, Grades 7 through 8 and Grades 9 through 12, to be housed in two early education centers, five intermediate elementary schools, one middle school, and one senior high school, such project contemplated to include:

(a) construction of a new middle school serving all grade 7 and 8 pupils at the Claude B. Chester Elementary School site, located off of US Route 1 and CT State Route 117 in the central part of Groton, contemplated to include the demolition of the present school building, the construction of an approximately 143,500 square foot building including thirty-three classrooms, six science labs, twenty art classrooms, three music classrooms, two technology education labs, six computer labs, eight small group instruction centers, full double court gymnasium, locker rooms, weight room, auditorium to seat 400, library, school based health clinic, cafeteria, kitchen, administrative space and other educational/building support areas, with heating and cooling provided by a ground source hybrid geothermal heat pump system with integrated energy recovery systems, construction of physical education playfields (including one all weather field), access drives, parking and subsurface storm water management systems, and related work and improvements (estimated cost of \$64,697,032);

(b) renovation of the Carl C. Cutler Middle School, located at 160 Fishtown Road in Mystic, to become an intermediate elementary school facility serving grades 2 through 6, contemplated to include renovations necessary to convert approximately 15,000 square feet of the building from middle school specific spaces to elementary classroom uses, parking improvements, code-required building upgrades, and related work and improvements (estimated cost of \$5,242,188);

(c) renovations and additions to the West Side Middle School, located at 250 Brandegee Avenue in the City of Groton, to become an early education center serving Pre-K through Grade 1,

contemplated to include renovations to 76,000 square feet of the existing building and an addition of approximately 11,700 square feet to provide a total of 35 classrooms arranged within three clusters of autonomous "learning communities", as well as an art classroom, music classroom, four small group instructional rooms, school based health clinic, along with kitchen, multipurpose room, administration/building support areas, and related work and improvements (estimated cost of \$23,037,357);

(d) construction of an early education center serving Pre-K through Grade 1, to be located at the current site of the present S.B. Butler Elementary School at 155 Oceanview Avenue in Mystic, contemplated to include construction of a new 79,700 square foot facility and the subsequent demolition of the present school building, the new facility to include a total of 35 classrooms arranged within three clusters of autonomous "learning communities", as well as an art classroom, music classroom, four small group instructional rooms, school based health clinic, along with kitchen, multipurpose room, administration/building support areas, with heating and cooling provided by a ground source hybrid geothermal heat pump system with integrated energy recovery systems, and related work and improvements (estimated cost of \$36,143,070); and

(e) construction of an all-weather artificial sports field and related improvements to be located on the site of the current football field at Fitch Senior High School, located at 101 Groton Long Point Road in Groton (estimated cost of \$1,002,766); and

costs related to the financing thereof (estimated at \$3,358,737). The appropriation may be spent for design, construction and demolition costs, equipment, furnishings, materials, land or easement acquisition, necessary utilities, site improvements, parking, road and sidewalk improvements to and on the school sites, architects' fees, engineering fees, construction management fees, legal fees, storage, temporary space, moving and other relocation and facility closure costs, net interest on borrowings and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project or its financing. The Town anticipates receiving State school building construction project grants in the estimated amount of 51.4 % of eligible project costs to defray in part the appropriation.

The Town Council shall, with Board of Education input, review and approve project phasing. The Town Council, or its designee, shall approve the final concept for each school project and may allocate the appropriation between the separate school projects as needed to pay the costs thereof. The Town Council may reduce or modify the scope of any element of the project and may delete elements of the project if funds are insufficient to complete the entire project. The entire appropriation may be expended on the project as so reduced or modified.

Section 2. That the Town issue bonds or notes, in an amount not to exceed ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-THREE MILLION FOUR HUNDRED EIGHTY-ONE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$133,481,150) to finance the appropriation for the project. The amount of bonds or notes authorized to be issued shall be reduced by the amount of grants received by the Town for the project. The bonds or notes shall be issued pursuant to Sections 7-369 and 10-289 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, and any other enabling acts. The bonds or notes shall be secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town of Groton. The Town does hereby covenant and agree with the holders of the bonds or notes and all notes issued in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds from the sale of such bonds or notes that in each year while any such bonds or notes are outstanding, it will levy and collect ad valorem taxes upon all taxable properties within the Town in an amount sufficient, with such other funds of the Town as shall be available for such purpose, to pay the interest and principal on the bonds or notes as the same become due and payable.

Section 3. That the Town issue and renew temporary notes from time to time in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds from the sale of the bonds or notes for the project or the receipt of grants for the project. The amount of the notes outstanding at any time shall not exceed ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-THREE MILLION FOUR HUNDRED EIGHTY-ONE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$133,481,150). The notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 7-378 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended. The notes shall be secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town, payable as provided in Section 2. The Town shall comply with the provisions of Section 7-378a of the General Statutes

with respect to any notes that do not mature within the time permitted by said Section 7-378.

Section 4. That the Town Council shall determine the amount of bonds or notes authorized by Section 2 to be sold. The Town Manager and the Director of Finance shall determine the amount of any temporary notes authorized by Section 3 to be sold. The Town Manager and the Director of Finance of the Town shall sign any bonds or notes by their manual or facsimile signatures. The law firm of Day Pitney LLP is designated as bond counsel to approve the legality of the bonds or notes. The Town Manager and the Director of Finance are authorized to determine the dates, interest rates, maturities, redemption provisions, form and other details of the bonds or notes; to provide for the keeping of a record of the bonds or notes; to designate one or more banks or trust companies to be certifying bank, registrar, transfer agent and paying agent for the bonds or notes; to designate a financial advisor to the Town in connection with the sale of the bonds or notes; to sell the bonds or notes at public or private sale; to deliver the bonds or notes; and to perform all other acts which are necessary or appropriate to issue the bonds or notes.

Section 5. That the Town hereby declares its official intent under Federal Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2 and, if applicable, pursuant to Section 54A(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, that (except tot the extent reimbursed from grant moneys) project costs may be paid from temporary advances of available funds and that the Town reasonably expects to reimburse any such advances from the proceeds of borrowings, including qualified tax credit bonds, in an aggregate principal amount not in excess of the amount of borrowing authorized above for the project. The Town Manager and the Director of Finance are authorized to amend such declaration of official intent as they deem necessary or advisable and to bind the Town pursuant to such representations and covenants as they deem necessary or advisable in order to maintain the continued exemption from federal income taxation of interest on the bonds or notes authorized by this ordinance if issued on a tax-exempt basis, including covenants to pay rebates of investment earnings to the United States in future years.

Section 6. That the Town Manager and the Director of Finance are authorized to make representations and enter into written agreements for the benefit of holders of the bonds or notes to provide secondary market disclosure information, which agreements may include such terms as they deem advisable or appropriate in order to comply with applicable laws or rules pertaining to the sale or purchase of such bonds or notes.

Section 7. That the Board of Education is authorized to apply for and accept state grants for the project. The Board of Education is authorized to file applications with the State Board of Education, to execute grant agreements for the project, and to file such documents as may be required by the State Board of Education to obtain grants for the costs of financing the project.

Section 8. That the Town Manager, the Director of Finance, the Board of Education and other proper officers of the Town are authorized to take all other action which is necessary or desirable to complete the project and to issue bonds or notes to finance the aforesaid appropriation.

Section 9. This ordinance shall become effective only if it has been adopted by vote of not less than five (5) members of the Town Council and by the Representative Town Meeting, and only if the appropriation set forth in Section 1 and the issuance of bonds and notes to finance said appropriation have been approved by the voters at referendum in accordance with Sections 5.5.5.1 and 9.13 of the Town Charter, and notice of passage has been published in accordance with the provisions of the Town Charter.

Refer to RTM.

**A motion was made by Councilor Peruzzotti, seconded by Councilor Flax, that this matter be Adopted and Referred to the Representative Town Meeting, due back on March 9, 2011.**

*Councilor Monteiro will vote against sending this item to referendum. She disagrees with the location for the new middle school and other items in the proposal. She stated that over the last two weeks she has received many comments similar to those made during Citizens Petitions tonight.*

*Councilor O'Beirne stated that the long-range school vision was to be segmented into three phases*



*and that this proposed Phase II School Facilities Program does not resemble the initial vision.*

*Mayor Streeter stated that he was in favor of Phase I and utilizing the King property. He does not concur with Claude Chester as the location for the new middle school. Mayor Streeter realizes that interest rates are low and contractors may be willing accept lower prices, but the Town cannot afford this project. He will be voting against this resolution.*

*Councilor Sheets will be voting for this resolution even though she disagrees with abandoning the King property. She stated that it may take two or three referendums before this passes, but she believes the voters should have the opportunity to vote.*

*Councilor Johnson stated that now is the best time to build, and he feels that citizens should be able to vote on this referendum. He believes that the committee has figured out a sensible plan.*

**The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Votes:** In Favor: 6 - Councilor Flax, Councilor Johnson, Councilor Kolnaski, Councilor Peruzzotti, Councilor Sheets and Councilor Watson  
Opposed: 3 - Mayor Streeter, Councilor Monteiro and Councilor O'Beirne, Jr.

**2011-0033**

**Supplemental Appropriation for May Referendum Costs**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING FYE 2011 CONTINGENCY TRANSFER FOR REFERENDUM COSTS**

WHEREAS, the Town Charter provides for transfers from the Contingency function during the year, and

WHEREAS, a May 2, 2011 voter referendum on the Thames Street Rehabilitation Program and the Phase II School Facilities Program will require expenditures pertaining to manning voter polling places, explanatory text preparation and distribution and other related legal and administrative expenditures, and

WHEREAS, transfers are necessary and represent expenditures that were unforeseen or unexpected at the time the FYE 2011 budget was adopted, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that \$51,000 be transferred from the General Fund Contingency function (#1074) to the following General Fund departments/functions, and be referred to the RTM for approval:

Voter Registration (#1003) @ \$24,000:  
for costs associated with manning voter polling places.

Town Clerk (#1005) @ \$27,000:  
for costs associated with the preparation and distribution of the explanatory text and other related legal and administrative expenses.

**A motion was made by Councilor Flax, seconded by Councilor Johnson, that this matter be Adopted and Referred to the Representative Town Meeting, due back on March 9, 2011.**

**The motion carried unanimously**

**2011-0024**

**FYE 2010 CAFR**

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE FYE 2010 AUDIT REPORT**

WHEREAS, the Town Council has considered the annual audit of the Town of Groton's finances, covering the fiscal year from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010, and

WHEREAS, the Council has discussed the audit findings with the manager of the audit team from the firm of Blum Shapiro, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town of Groton accepts and files the FYE 2010 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), the Auditor's Reports and Management Letter.

A motion was made by Councilor Watson, seconded by Councilor Kolnaski, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

**XI. OTHER BUSINESS**

*None.*

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

*A motion to adjourn at 8:31 p.m. was made by Councilor Kolnaski, seconded by Councilor Monteiro and so voted unanimously.*

*Attest:*

*Betsy Moukawsher, Town Clerk  
Clerk of the Council*

*Lori Watrous, Office Assistant*